(f) if so, the action taken against such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The information is being collected from the Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi.

(b) No survey has been conducted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to find out the number of quacks in the country.

(c) to (f) Penal provisions already exist in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 as well as in the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 and the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 to the effect that no person other than a medical practitioner enrolled on the State Medical Register shall practice medicine in any State and any person contravening this provision shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with the fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both. The Government of India had advised the State Government/U.Ts. to take action against unqualified practitioners. A person possessing a fake certificate is not eligible for registration with the Medical Council of India/ State Medical Council and are liable for punishment under the provisions of relevant law. An institution issuing a fake degree is punishable under the UGC Act, 1956.

[Translation]

Anti-Indian Sentiments at Pak Embassy in Nepal

140. KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Nepal mein Pak Dootwas Bharat Virodh Ka Kendra" appearing in the "Hindustan" on the 4th June, 1997;

(b) whether the Union Government have sent a letter of protest to the Government of Nepal in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government of Nepal thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA): (a) to (c) Attention of Government has been drawn to the said newspaper article. During the Prime Minister's visit to Nepal in June, 1997, the determination of the two countries was reiterated, to work closely and fight the scourge of terrorism. The Prime Ministers directed their Home Secretaries to meet at the earliest to develop an understanding in this regard. They also renewed their commitment not to allow their territory to be used for activities directed against or prejudicial to the security of the other. They further desired that the meeting of the "Joint Working Group on Border Management be held at the earliest".

[English]

Trauma Health Services

141. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gruesome fire tragedy has brought into focus the need for centralised trauma health services;

(b) if so, whether the projects has been hanging fire since the last 15 years and no concrete action has so far been taken till date to transform the dream into a reality;

(c) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to revive the project; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) A project for establishing a Centralised Accident and Trauma Service for Delhi was approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee with a financial outlay of about Rs. 16 crores in 1984. However, due to various factors including the issue of funding, the project could not be implemented till date. Keeping in view, the high percentage of accident victims in Delhi, a project for setting up a Trauma Centre in Delhi has been posed in October, 1996 for possible Japanese assistance. 14.34 acres of land is in the possession of AIIMS where new construction is possible.

A Centralised Accident Trauma Services is functioning under the Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi which provides ambulance cover to accident victims. The Govt. of NCT of Delhi has also incorporated a new Scheme "Establishment of Trauma Centre in Delhi" with a token outlay in their Annual Plan 1997-98.

Exemption for Government Pension Scheme

142. SHRI SANAT MEHTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Private Sector and Public Sector Organisations have sought exemption from the Central Government's Pension Scheme, 1995 for industrial workers;

(b) if so, details thereof and reasons for seeking the exemption;

(c) the name of the monitoring authority; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) M/s. Indian Oil Corporation, Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd., National Aluminium Company, Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertiliser Ltd. Gujarat State Fertiliser Co. Ltd. etc. have sought exemption from the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995. Under para 39 of the Scheme exemption can be considered in respect of an establishment, whose employees are entitled to pensionary benefits at par or more favourable than the benefit provided under the Employees Pension Scheme. Under the Scheme the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner is required to scrutinise the application for exemption and submit the same to the appropriate Government. So far no exemption application has been received by the Government through the prescribed channel. The applications received by the Government direct have been forwarded to the EPF organisation for necessary action as per the scheme.

[Translation]

Relief to Labourers

143. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether an assurance of immediate payment of six months wage as relief to workers rendered unemployed as a result of Supreme Court directive to shift industries out of Delhi, has been given by the Government;

(b) whether a meeting was also held in May 1997 under the Chairmanship of the Union Home Minister which was attended by the Union Minister of Labour, the Chief Minister as well as the Labour Minister of Delhi, Lt. Governor of Delhi with the representatives of the Labour organisation to provide relief to workers rendered unemployed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for their rehabilitation/giving employment to workers rendered unemployed and the number of workers benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (d) The Government of NCT of Delhi has given importance to the question of payment of legal dues to the workmen/employees due to shifting of industries out of Delhi as a result of the Supreme Court directive.

A meeting was held on 8.5.97 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Union Home Minister, wherein among others, Union Minister of Labour, Lt. Governor, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Chief Minister, Minister of Industry and Labour, Delhi were present to sort out various issues arising out of the directive of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

The Govt. of NCT of Delhi has taken steps to provide information/guidance regarding location/availability and rates of industrial land available to facilitate rehabilitation of industries affected by the Supreme Court orders.

[English]

Purchase of Products from Hindustan Latex for Family Welfare

144. SHRI N.K. PREMCHNDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have imposed any restrain over the purchase of the products for family planning from Hindustan Latex;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the Government are aware that this would adversely affect the functioning of Hindustan Latex in Kerala;

(c) whether the Government consider to purchase the entire requirement for family planning exclusively from public sector units as Hindustan Latex; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) The requirements of Family Welfare Programme are procured on the basis of the Rate Contracts finalised through a process of competitive bidding. However, some preference is given to public Sector Units in placement of orders, price remaining the same.

[Translation]

Unemployment—Ninth Five Year Plan

145. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the unemployment problem in the country before finalising Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if so, the projections of unemployed youths in the country in the beginning and at the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The employment and unemployment problem of the country is being assessed by the Government on regular intervals. As per the latest comprehensive survey of employment and unemployment conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in their 50th Round (1993-94), the estimates of unemployed persons according to Usual Principal Status (UPS) is 8,995 million. The year-wise data of unemployment is not available.